



State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

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STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, August 2, 2006

The Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, August 2, 2006, at the Claiborne Building Conference Center, 1st Floor, 1-153 Iowa Room, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Committee Chair Michael Abbiatti called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. The roll was called by Ms. Diane Didier, Support Staff for the Committee, and a quorum was established.

Committee Members Present:

Michael Abbiatti (Chair)

Chief Robert Black
Arnold Chauviere
Chief Freddy Drennan
Joe Drago
Sheriff Ricky Edwards
Michelle Fontenot

Heywood Jeffers

Curry Johnson

Lt. Colonel Robert Morris
Pat Potier
Susan Severance
Colonel Eric Sivula
Lt. Colonel Brian Spillman
Colonel Henry Whitehorn

Committee Members Absent:

Rizwan Ahmed (Vice-Chair)

Richard Gremillion

Senator Robert Marionneaux
Representative Daniel Martiny

Representing Agency:

LA Broadband Advisory Council/
LA Board of Regents
LA Fire Chief's Association
LA Public Service Commission
Police Chief's Association
Dept. of Transportation/Development
LA Sheriff's Association
LA House of Representatives Committee
on Administration of Criminal Justice
LA Senate Select Committee on
Homeland Security
LA House of Representatives Special
Committee on LA Homeland Security
LA National Guard
Dept. of Health & Hospitals
GOHSEP
Dept. of Public Safety/Corrections Services
Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
LA State Police

Representing Agency:

Division of Administration &
Office of Information Technology
Regional Parish Homeland Security &
Emergency Preparedness Directors
Committee
LA State Senate Judiciary B Committee
LA House of Representatives Committee
On Administration of Criminal Justice

State/Parish Agency Representatives Present:

John Butterick
Eric Deroche
Colonel Kenneth Hughes
Ralph Ladnier
Gary Peters
Michael Ranatza
Tommy Thiebaud

Region 5 Calcasieu OHSEP
Region 3 Assumption/St. James OHSEP
Region 1 Plaquemines OHSEP
Region 2 Baton Rouge OHSEP
Region 8 Ouachita OHSEP
LA Commission on Law Enforcement
Region 9 Washington OHSEP

Support Staff Present:

Diane Didier (LA Board of Regents)

**Guest List
See Appendix**

III. Approval of the Minutes of July 26, 2006

Mr. Michael Abbiatti, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the July 26, 2006 minutes. Chief Robert Black requested to amend the minutes on page 3 of the Technology Report to add the Sub-Committee discussed establishing statewide mutual aid frequencies.

On motion of Colonel Eric Sivula, seconded by Mr. Joe Drago, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of July 26, 2006.

IV. Special Presentations

Mr. Abbiatti announced that the August 9th meeting is cancelled due to the ALERT.

Mr. Abbiatti introduced Lt. Colonel Robert Morris, Louisiana National Guard, to give a report on the communication system in New Orleans. Lt. Colonel Morris reported on the Interoperability – challenges and lessons learned from the three (3) state agencies, NOPD (New Orleans Police Department), LSP (Louisiana State Police), and the LANG (Louisiana National Guard). The three (3) agencies are integrating for a successful interoperable communication system in New Orleans. He then stated that as of this day, the system is successful. Lt. Colonel Morris answered questions from the Committee.

Mr. Abbiatti introduced Ms. Coletta Barrett representing LERN (Louisiana Emergency Response Network). Ms. Barrett gave a presentation on LERN and the funding process from State appropriations.

Colonel Henry Whitehorn recommended that the SIEC submit a budget to the LRA (Louisiana Recovery Authority). Ms. Barrett recommended to the Committee to check with the CDBG (Community Development Block Grants Program) for assistance with the process, etc.

Mr. Abbiatti commented that the SIEC would work with LERN for support in technology. Ms. Barrett invited the SIEC to give a presentation at the next LERN meeting.

Mr. Abbiatti commented under the recommendation from Corporal Michael Murphy he contacted the Gulf States Regional Community Policing Institute, Ms. Daphne Levenson, to assist with the funding for the Gulf Coast Summit. Mr. Abbiatti introduced Ms. Levenson. She then talked about her meeting with COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) Office. Ms. Levenson commented that COPS required criteria, specific goals, measurable outcomes, etc. for the SIEC to receive funding for the Gulf Coast Summit. A copy of Ms. Levenson's report and COPS materials will be handed out at the next SIEC meeting.

The Committee members broke out in assigned sub-committees at 2:40 p.m.

V. Sub-Committee Progress Reports

The SIEC members returned to full meeting at 3:43 p.m. Reports were given from the four (4) sub-committees.

Mr. Abbiatti called the full meeting back to order. He then asked for the report from Chief Robert Black of the Technology Sub-Committee. Chief Black asked Colonel Henry Whitehorn to give an update on the Assessment Needs Survey. Colonel Whitehorn stated that a spreadsheet will be prepared to show analysis of the submitted surveys. Chief Black reviewed the State of Louisiana 700 Mhz P25 Radio System Submission Process and

Membership Request.

After further discussion,

On motion of Chief Robert Black, seconded by Colonel Henry Whitehorn, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendation to for the SIEC adopt the State of Louisiana 700 Mhz P25 Radio System Submission Process and Membership Request.

Mr. Abbiatti mentioned that the updated copies of the State of Louisiana 700Mhz P25 Radio System Submission Process and Membership Request will be distributed. Chief Robert Black also reported that the sub-committee discussed the goals for the Technology/Assessment Sub-Committees; access the current communication system and to get the information from the Assessment Needs Surveys and follow through on the established frequencies so that all the disciplines can be on the 700Mhz system.

Mr. Abbiatti gave his report on the Funding and Finance Sub-Committee. He then recommended to create a one-page document to list specific items that the SIEC wants to fund. Mr. Abbiatti is also working on a meeting with the Governor's Office to request assistance for the funding.

Mr. Abbiatti reported on the Policy and Procedures Sub-Committee on behalf of Ms. Susan Severance. He reported no new business was discussed at the sub-committee.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Abbiatti mentioned that motion that was discussed in the last SIEC is included in the packets. Mr. Eric Deroche read the motion and suggested to move forward to work together on the State of Louisiana System; SIEC being the governing authority. Colonel Whitehorn assured the Committee that the current system is not a State Police system, but a statewide system and has no problem maintaining the system. Mr. Joe Drago offered for DOTD to assist with towers, etc.

Sheriff Ricky Edwards presented a list of questions to the SIEC regarding the Motorola system, FEMA funds for the purchase of equipment, maintenance fees, and local Homeland Security funds for the network. Colonel Whitehorn requested that Sheriff Edwards send the list of questions to Mr. Abbiatti to send out on the SIEC listserv.

Sheriff Edwards prompted a discussion concerning the LSP Expenditure Report, Estimated Expenditures, Initial Acquisition Cost on the number of Local Subscriber Units for portables. Ms. Christina Dayries gave an explanation of the figures. There was further discussion regarding maintenance/user fees in the report.

After further discussion,

On motion of Sheriff Ricky Edwards, seconded by Chief Freddie Drennan, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendation to appoint the State Interoperable Communications System Executive Committee as the governing authority over the State of Louisiana P25 700 MHz radio system, placing the day-to-day operation and maintenance of this system with the Louisiana State Police Radio Communications. In addition, request that the Governor's office increase the budget and staffing of the Louisiana State Police Radio Communications to support the additional work load for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the State of Louisiana P25 700 MHz communication system.

Chief Black reminded the Committee of the SIEC presentation at the Louisiana State Firemen's Association Conference in New Orleans on Friday, August 11.

Chief Black commented that there are no assigned working groups to date. Mr. Abbiatti requested for Ms. Diane Didier to check the SIEC meeting attendance of the Region Directors. There was further discussion regarding how to get information out to the Regions and local agencies.

After further discussion,

On motion of Mr. Tommy Thiebaud, seconded by Mr. Eric Deroche, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendation for Mr. Michael Abbiatti to call a meeting with the Region Directors and bring them up to date with the SIEC.

Mr. Abbiatti asked the Committee members to send to him the point of contact of the Regions and he will request the required information for the Assessment Needs Survey.

VII. New Business

Mr. Abbiatti requested a report from the Gulf Coast Summit Committee. Ms. Dayries gave the following report: 1) Recommended to meet at a separate time before the SIEC meeting; 2) Research summit in Baton Rouge – work with Mayor Holden and Corporal Mike Murphy; 3) Vender space available; 4) Alabama/Louisiana – involve other state representatives; 5) Involve multi-disciplines – fire, police, local government, etc.

Eric Sivula suggested to send a formal letter from the SIEC to the BJA (Bureau of Justice Assistance).

On motion of Colonel Eric Sivula, seconded by Chief Freddy Drennan, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendation to send an official letter to Bureau of Justice Assistance suggesting that the organization hold one of their technology review workshops in conjunction with the Gulf Coast Interoperability Summit.

VIII. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

IX. Adjournment

In the absence of further business, Chair Mr. Abbiatti adjourned the Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee meeting at 4:33 p.m.

APPENDIX
GUEST LIST
August 2, 2006

NAME

AFFILIATION

Ray Dry
John Richer
Richard Silverman
Daphne Levenson

DOTD
Allen Parish OHSEP
DEQ
Gulf States Regional Community
Policing Institute

Dennis Blackwell
Raj Iyer
Christina Dayires
Cathy Trenkle
Robert Hale
Coletta Barrett
David Luker

Motorola
Motorola
LA State Police
BEMS/LERN
LSUBR Police
LERN
EBR Sheriff's Office